



# News Release

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360-236-4074  
360-236-4700

## **State disciplines health care providers**

**OLYMPIA** — The Washington State Department of Health has taken disciplinary actions or withdrawn charges against health care providers in our state.

The department's Health Systems Quality Assurance Office works with boards, commissions, and advisory committees to set licensing standards for more than 70 health care professions (e.g., medical doctors, nurses, counselors).

Information about health care providers is on the agency website. Click on "Provider Credential Search" on the left hand side of the [Department of Health home page](http://www.doh.wa.gov) (www.doh.wa.gov). The site includes information about a health care provider's license status, the expiration and renewal date of their credential, disciplinary actions and copies of legal documents issued after July 1998. This information is also available by calling 360-236-4700. Consumers who think a health care provider acted unprofessionally are also encouraged to call and report their complaint.

### **Adams County**

In June 2011 the Nursing Assistant Program reinstated the registration of **Erica E. Ramirez** (NA00169892).

### **Clark County**

In May 2011 the Nursing Commission terminated the order of probation against registered nurse **Patricia S. Johnson** (RN00082913).

In June 2011 the Agency Affiliated Counselor Program granted the application of **Martie Louise Waitas** (CG60218899) and placed her registration on probation for two years. In 1993 she was convicted of assault, in 1994 she was convicted of harassment, in 1995 she was convicted of theft on two occasions, and in 2006 she was convicted of assault, reckless endangerment, and possession of a controlled substance — methamphetamine. She must comply with terms and conditions set against her registration.

In June 2011 the Emergency Medical Services and Trauma Systems Program amended the statement of charges against paramedic **Richard L. Wilson** (ES01166403). He allegedly engaged in sexual intercourse with the mother of a patient, a minor child.

### **Franklin County**

In June 2011 the Nursing Assistant Program charged registered nursing assistant **Silvia L. Cervantes** (NA60081596) with unprofessional conduct. She allegedly admitted to taking \$90 from a patient without permission. In 2009 she was convicted of theft.

### **King County**

In June 2011 the Nursing Assistant Program terminated the order of probation against certified nursing assistant **JungHee O. Amaral** (NC60127912).

In June 2011 the Massage and Nursing Assistant Programs charged massage therapist and registered nursing assistant **Anthony Delgado** (MA00019552 NA00176806) with unprofessional conduct. He allegedly made inappropriate sexual comments to patients, and touched patients inappropriately during massage treatment sessions.

In June 2011 the Radiologic Technologist Program charged **Michael M. Ikeda** (RT00000187) with unprofessional conduct. He allegedly made inappropriate sexual advances and comments toward a patient.

In June 2011 the Medical Commission modified the agreed order against physician **Solomon Kamson** (MD00021337) and placed his Washington license on probation. He must comply with terms and conditions set against his license.

In May 2011 the Nursing Assistant Program denied the application of registered nursing assistant applicant **Ailene Liquele Pelingon** (NA60216679). In 2010 she entered into a deferred sentence for the charge of assault.

After a hearing in June 2011, the Nursing Assistant Program granted the application of registered nursing assistant **Curtis D. Smith** (NA60200185) and placed his registration on probation for two years. In 2010 he surrendered his license to practice as a dentist in Washington. He failed to disclose the surrender on his application. He must comply with terms and conditions set against his registration.

In June 2011 the Dental Commission granted the application of dental assistant **Diana J. Tab** (D160214889) and placed her registration on probation. In 2010 she entered into an order of continuance for the charge of assault — domestic violence. She must comply with terms and conditions set against her registration.

### **Lewis County**

In June 2011 the Nursing Assistant Program terminated the order of probation against certified nursing assistant **Sonia M. Romero** (NC10067239).

In June 2011 the Nursing Assistant Program charged certified nursing assistant **Sherry Lynn Smith** (NC10030948) with unprofessional conduct. She allegedly accepted money from a resident for her own personal use.

### **Mason County**

In June 2011 the Nursing Assistant Program charged registered nursing assistant **Talitha Gayle Gullett** (NA60110277) with unprofessional conduct. She allegedly took gift cards from a resident and used them for her own personal use. In February 2011 she was charged with theft.

### **Pierce County**

In June 2011 the Nursing Assistant Program charged certified nursing assistant **Alena D. Alves** (NC10045511) with unprofessional conduct. She allegedly took a cell phone from a resident for her own personal use.

In June 2011 the Emergency Medical Services and Trauma Systems Program terminated the order of probation against emergency medical technician **Sarah Anne Baumgardner** (ES60117451).

In June 2011 the Medical Commission charged physician **Jose A. Garcia Jr.** (MD00011694) with unprofessional conduct. He allegedly failed to comply with prior terms and conditions set against his license, and failed to meet the standard of care by permitting an unlicensed person to inject medication into a patient.

In June 2011 the Nursing Assistant Program charged certified nursing assistant **Michelle Annette Johnson** (NC10048662) with unprofessional conduct. She allegedly grabbed a patient's arms when the patient became combative and left several bruises on the patient's arms. In January 2011 she was charged with assault, and failed to appear at her arraignment resulting in a bench warrant. She allegedly failed to respond to Department of Health inquiries about the charge.

In June 2011 the Nursing Assistant Program granted the application of certified nursing assistant **Alice Njoki Karanjah** (NC60188899) and placed her certification on probation until May 2012. Her registration to practice as a nursing assistant was placed on probation for one year. She must comply with terms and conditions set against her certification.

In June 2011 the Nursing Assistant Program charged certified nursing assistant **Susanne Martina Obado** (NC60133659) with unprofessional conduct. She allegedly failed to comply with terms and conditions set against her certification.

In June 2011 the Nursing Assistant Program charged certified nursing assistant **Clarence R. Wahleithner Sr.** (NC10044198) with unprofessional conduct. In May 2011 he was convicted of three counts of identity theft, and four counts of theft.

### **Skagit County**

In June 2011 the Nursing Assistant Program charged certified nursing assistant **Joseph A. Kortus** (NC10084027) with unprofessional conduct. In 2008 he was convicted of two counts of child molestation, and two counts of incest.

### **Snohomish County**

In October 2010 the Chemical Dependency Professional Program denied the application of chemical dependency professional trainee **Michael Francis Blodgett** (CO60133740). In 1977 he was convicted of rape, in 1988 he was convicted of obstructing a public servant, and theft, in 1993 he was convicted of driving under the influence, in 1997 he was convicted of failure to register as a sex offender, in 1998 he was convicted of driving under the influence, in 1999 he was convicted of failure to register, and in 2000 he was convicted of driving while license suspended or revoked, and driving while under the influence.

In June 2011 the Nursing Commission charged registered nurse **Anne M. Walgamott** (RN00167484) with unprofessional conduct. She allegedly failed to comply with terms and conditions set against her license.

### **Yakima County**

In June 2011 the Nursing Assistant Program terminated the order of probation against certified nursing assistant **Gary L. Davis** (NC10047920).

In June 2011 the Nursing Commission granted the application of registered nurse **Beth Merle Weiss** (RN60219485) and placed her license on probation. The Nevada State Board of Nursing placed her license to practice as a nurse in Nevada on probation for two years. She must comply with terms and conditions set against her license to practice in Washington.

### **Out of State**

**Arizona:** In June 2011 the Dental Commission granted the application of dental assistant **Vicki L. Bush** (D160183324) and placed conditions against her registration. In 2010 she entered into a stay of proceedings for the charge of malicious mischief. She must comply with terms and conditions set against her registration.

**Note to Editors:** Health care providers charged with unprofessional conduct have 20 days to respond to the Department of Health in writing. The case then enters the settlement process. If no disciplinary agreement can be reached, the case will go to a hearing.

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Visit the Washington Department of Health website at <a href="http://www.doh.wa.gov">http://www.doh.wa.gov</a> for a healthy dose of information.
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